

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A prosthetic walking system for attachment to an amputee, the prosthetic walking system comprising:

    a pylon having an upper end for attachment to the amputee and a lower end;

    a prosthetic foot;

    a prosthetic ankle coupled between the pylon and the prosthetic foot, the prosthetic ankle having

        an upper leg coupled to the lower end of the pylon;

        a lower leg coupled to the prosthetic foot; and

        an interconnecting portion located between the upper leg and the lower leg; and

means for limiting at least one link coupled to at least one of the lower end of the pylon and the upper leg, the at least one link means for limiting also coupled to at least one of the lower leg and the prosthetic foot, the at least one link means for limiting at least partially defining a maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg.

2. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 1, wherein:

    the upper leg has an anterior portion;

    the lower leg has an anterior portion; and

    the interconnecting portion is located between the anterior portion of the upper leg and the anterior portion of the lower leg.

3. (Currently Amended) The prosthetic walking system of claim 2, wherein:

    the upper leg has a posterior portion;

    the lower leg has a posterior portion; and

    the means for limiting at least one link is coupled between the posterior portion of the upper leg and the posterior portion of the lower leg.

4. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 1, wherein the upper leg and the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle are substantially straight and the interconnecting portion of the prosthetic ankle is substantially arcuate.

5. (Cancelled) The prosthetic walking system of claim 1, wherein the upper leg, the lower leg, and the interconnecting portion of the prosthetic ankle are each substantially arcuate.

6. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 1, wherein the pylon and the prosthetic ankle are an integral unit.

7. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 1, wherein the at least one link is a resilient belt having

an upper portion coupled to at least one of the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle; and

a lower portion coupled to at least one of the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot.

8. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 7, wherein the resilient belt is a cord extending at least twice between at least one of the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle and at least one of the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot.

9. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 1, wherein the at least one link is a strap having

a top portion coupled between the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle; a bottom portion coupled between the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot; and an intermediate portion located between the top portion and the bottom portion, a length of the intermediate portion at least partially defining the maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg.

10. (Cancelled) The prosthetic walking system of claim 1, wherein the at least one link includes

a first link having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion of the first link being coupled to at least one of the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle;

a second link having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion of the second link being coupled to the second portion of the first link; and

a heel having a top portion and a bottom portion, the top portion of the heel being coupled to the second portion of the second link, the bottom portion of the heel being coupled to at least one of the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot.

11. (Cancelled) The prosthetic walking system of claim 10, further comprising an adjustment screw coupled to at least one of the first link and the second link and to the heel, wherein the adjustment screw is adjustable to vary the maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle.

12. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 1, wherein the at least one link includes at least one of a hydraulic cylinder and a pneumatic cylinder coupled to at least one of the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle and to at least one of the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot.

13. (Cancelled) The prosthetic walking system of claim 1, wherein the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle has a first length and the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle has a second length greater than the first length.

14. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the prosthetic ankle is flexible.

15. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 14, wherein the interconnecting portion is flexible.

16. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.

17. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 1, wherein:  
the prosthetic ankle has a cross-sectional shape having a first moment of inertia and the pylon has a cross-sectional shape having a second moment of inertia; and  
the first moment of inertia is less than the second moment of inertia so that the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.
18. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 1, wherein the pylon has a first width and a portion of the prosthetic ankle has a second width smaller than the first width so that the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.
19. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 18, wherein the portion of the prosthetic ankle having the second width is positioned asymmetrically with respect to a longitudinal axis of the pylon.
20. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 1, wherein the pylon has a substantially circular cross-sectional shape and the prosthetic ankle has a substantially rectangular cross-sectional shape.
21. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 1, wherein:  
the pylon is constructed of a first material;  
the prosthetic ankle is constructed of a different second material; and  
the second material is more compliant than the first material so that the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.
22. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 21, wherein the first material is carbon-fiber composite and the second material is fiberglass.
23. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the pylon, the prosthetic ankle, and the prosthetic foot includes a lateral section independently movable with respect to a medial section.

24. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 23, wherein the prosthetic foot includes a toe portion and the toe portion includes the lateral section and the medial section.

25. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 24, wherein:  
the lateral section has a first width; and  
the medial section has a second width smaller than the first width.

26. (Currently Amended) A method of adjusting a prosthetic walking system according to an amputee's gait, the method comprising:

attaching a prosthetic walking system to the amputee, the prosthetic walking system including a pylon, a prosthetic foot, and a prosthetic ankle coupled between the pylon and the prosthetic foot, the prosthetic ankle having an upper leg, a lower leg, and an interconnecting portion located between the upper leg and the lower leg;

providing means for limiting at least one link coupled between at least one of the pylon and the upper leg and at least one of the lower leg and the prosthetic foot;

limiting the maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg with the means for limiting at least one link; and

adjusting the means for limiting at least one link to change the maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26, further comprising rotating an adjustment screw to adjust the means for limiting at least one link.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, further comprising changing a pressure in at least one of a hydraulic cylinder and a pneumatic cylinder to adjust the at least one link.

29. (Cancelled) A prosthetic walking system for attachment to an amputee, the prosthetic walking system comprising:

- a pylon having an upper end for attachment to the amputee and a lower end;
- a prosthetic foot having a heel portion;
- an prosthetic ankle coupled between the pylon and the prosthetic foot, the prosthetic ankle having
  - an upper leg coupled to the lower end of the pylon, the upper leg having an anterior portion;
  - a lower leg coupled to the heel portion, the lower leg having an anterior portion; and
  - an interconnecting portion located between the anterior portion of the upper leg and the anterior portion of the lower leg; and
  - a link assembly at least partially defining a maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg, the link assembly including
    - a first link having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion of the first link coupled to the pylon;
    - a second link having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion of the second link coupled to the second portion of the first link; and
    - a heel having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion of the heel coupled to the second portion of the second link, the second portion of the heel coupled to the heel portion of the prosthetic foot.

30. (Cancelled) The prosthetic walking system of claim 29, wherein:

- the second portion of the first link is rotatably coupled to the first portion of the second link;
- the second portion of the second link is rotatably coupled to the first portion of the heel; and
- the first link and the second link are pivotably responsive to flexure of the prosthetic ankle.

31. (Cancelled) The prosthetic walking system of claim 29, wherein the upper leg, the lower leg, and the interconnecting portion of the prosthetic ankle are each substantially arcuate.

32. (Cancelled) The prosthetic walking system of claim 29, wherein the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle has a first length and the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle has a second length greater than the first length.

33. (Cancelled) The prosthetic walking system of claim 29, wherein at least a portion of the prosthetic ankle is flexible.

34. (Cancelled) The prosthetic walking system of claim 33, wherein the interconnecting portion is flexible.

35. (Cancelled) The prosthetic walking system of claim 29, wherein at least a portion of the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.

36. (Cancelled) The prosthetic walking system of claim 29, wherein:  
the prosthetic ankle has a cross-sectional shape having a first moment of inertia and the pylon has a cross-sectional shape having a second moment of inertia; and  
the first moment of inertia is less than the second moment of inertia so that the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.

37. (Cancelled) The prosthetic walking system of claim 29, wherein the pylon has a first width and a portion of the prosthetic ankle has a second width smaller than the first width so that the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.

38. (Cancelled) The prosthetic walking system of claim 29, wherein the pylon has a substantially circular cross-sectional shape and the prosthetic ankle has a substantially rectangular cross-sectional shape.

39. (Cancelled) The prosthetic walking system of claim 29, wherein:  
the pylon is constructed of a first material;  
the prosthetic ankle is constructed of a different second material; and  
the second material is more compliant than the first material so that the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.
40. (Cancelled) The prosthetic walking system of claim 39, wherein the first material is carbon-fiber composite and the second material is fiberglass.

41. (Currently Amended) A prosthetic walking system for attachment to an amputee, the prosthetic walking system comprising:

a pylon having an upper end for attachment to the amputee and a lower end;

a prosthetic ankle integral with the pylon by being fabricated from a continuous piece of material, the prosthetic ankle including

an upper leg having an anterior portion and a posterior portion, the posterior portion being integral with the lower end of the pylon;

a lower leg having an anterior portion and a posterior portion; and an interconnecting portion located between the anterior portion of

the upper leg and the anterior portion of the lower leg; and

a prosthetic foot coupled to at least one of the anterior portion and the posterior portion of the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle.

42. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 41, wherein the upper leg and the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle are substantially straight and the interconnecting portion of the prosthetic ankle is substantially arcuate.

43. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 41, wherein the upper leg, the lower leg, and the interconnecting portion of the prosthetic ankle are each substantially arcuate.

44. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 41, further comprising at least one link coupled between at least one of the lower end of the pylon and the upper leg and at least one of the lower leg and the prosthetic foot, the at least one link at least partially defining a maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg.

45. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 44, wherein the at least one link is a resilient belt having

an upper portion coupled to at least one of the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle; and

a lower portion coupled to at least one of the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot.

46. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 45, wherein the resilient belt is a cord extending at least twice between at least one of the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle and at least one of the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot.

47. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 44, wherein the at least one link is a strap having

a top portion coupled between the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle;  
a bottom portion coupled between the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot; and  
an intermediate portion located between the top portion and the bottom portion, a length of the intermediate portion at least partially defining the maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg.

48. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 44, wherein the at least one link includes

a first link having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion of the first link being coupled to at least one of the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle;

a second link having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion of the second link being coupled to the second portion of the first link; and

a heel having a top portion and a bottom portion, the top portion of the heel being coupled to the second portion of the second link, the bottom portion of the heel being coupled to at least one of the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot.

49. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 48, further comprising an adjustment screw coupled between at least one of the first link and the second link and the heel, wherein the adjustment screw is adjustable in order to vary the maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle.

50. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 44, wherein the at least one link includes at least one of a hydraulic cylinder and a pneumatic cylinder coupled to at least one of the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle and to at least one of the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot.

51. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 41, wherein the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle has a first length and the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle has a second length greater than the first length.

52. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 41, wherein at least a portion of the prosthetic ankle is flexible.

53. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 52, wherein the interconnecting portion is flexible.

54. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 41, wherein at least a portion of the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.

55. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 41, wherein:

the prosthetic ankle has a cross-sectional shape having a first moment of inertia and the pylon has a cross-sectional shape having a second moment of inertia; and

the first moment of inertia is less than the second moment of inertia so that the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.

56. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 41, wherein the pylon has a first width and a portion of the prosthetic ankle has a second width smaller than the first width so that the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.

57. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 56, wherein the portion of the prosthetic ankle having the second width is positioned asymmetrically with respect to a longitudinal axis of the pylon.

58. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 41, wherein the pylon has a substantially circular cross-sectional shape and the prosthetic ankle has a substantially rectangular cross-sectional shape.

59. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 41, wherein:  
the pylon is constructed of a first material;  
the prosthetic ankle is constructed of a different second material; and  
the second material is more compliant than the first material so that the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.
60. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 59, wherein the first material is carbon-fiber composite and the second material is fiberglass.
61. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 41, wherein at least one of the pylon, the prosthetic ankle, and the prosthetic foot includes a lateral section independently movable with respect to a medial section.
62. (Original) The prosthetic walking system of claim 61, wherein the prosthetic foot includes a toe portion and the toe portion includes the lateral section and the medial section.
63. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 62, wherein:  
the lateral section has a first width; and  
the medial section has a second width smaller than the first width.

64. (Withdrawn) A prosthetic walking system for attachment to an amputee, the prosthetic walking system comprising:

a pylon having an upper end for attachment to the amputee and a lower end;

a prosthetic foot; and

an prosthetic ankle coupled between the pylon and the prosthetic foot, the prosthetic ankle having

an upper leg coupled to the lower end of the pylon;

a lower leg coupled to the prosthetic foot;

an interconnecting portion located between the upper leg and the

lower leg; and

a weakened portion defined within at least one of the upper leg and the interconnecting portion, the weakened portion being less resistant to bending than the pylon so that the prosthetic walking system flexes at the weakened portion when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system by the amputee.

65. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 64, wherein the pylon has a first width and the weakened portion has a second width smaller than the first width.

66. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 65, wherein the weakened portion having the second width is positioned asymmetrically with respect to a longitudinal axis of the pylon.

67. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 64, wherein the pylon has a first cross-sectional area and the weakened portion has a second cross-sectional area smaller than the first cross-sectional area.

68. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 64, wherein:

the weakened portion has a cross-sectional shape having a first moment of inertia and the pylon has a cross-sectional shape having a second moment of inertia; and

the first moment of inertia is less than the second moment of inertia so that the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.

69. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 64, wherein the pylon has a substantially circular cross-sectional shape and the prosthetic ankle has a substantially rectangular cross-sectional shape.

70. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 64, wherein:

the pylon is constructed of a first material;

the weakened portion is constructed of a different second material; and

the second material is more compliant than the first material so that the weakened portion flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.

71. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 70, wherein the first material is carbon-fiber composite and the second material is fiberglass.

72. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 64, wherein the upper leg and the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle are substantially straight and the interconnecting portion of the prosthetic ankle is substantially arcuate.

73. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 64, wherein the upper leg, the lower leg, and the interconnecting portion of the prosthetic ankle are each substantially arcuate.

74. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 64, further comprising at least one link coupled between at least one of the lower end of the pylon and the upper leg and at least one of the lower leg and the prosthetic foot, the at least one link at least partially defining a maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg.

75. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 74, wherein the at least one link is a resilient belt having

an upper portion coupled to at least one of the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle; and

a lower portion coupled to at least one of the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot.

76. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 75, wherein the resilient belt is a cord extending at least twice between at least one of the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle and at least one of the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot.

77. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 74, wherein the at least one link is a strap having

a top portion coupled between the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle;

a bottom portion coupled between the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot; and

an intermediate portion coupled between the top portion and the bottom portion, a length of the intermediate portion defining the maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg.

78. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 74, wherein the at least one link includes

a first link having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion of the first link being coupled to at least one of the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle;

a second link having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion of the second link being coupled to the second portion of the first link; and

a heel having a top portion and a bottom portion, the top portion of the heel being coupled to the second portion of the second link, the bottom portion of the heel being coupled to at least one of the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot.

79. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 78, further comprising an adjustment screw coupled to at least one of the first link and the second link and to the heel, wherein the adjustment screw is adjustable to vary the maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle.

80. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 74, wherein the at least one link includes at least one of a hydraulic cylinder and a pneumatic cylinder coupled to at least one of the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle and to at least one of the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot.

81. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 64, wherein the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle has a first length and the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle has a second length greater than the first length.

82. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 64, wherein at least a portion of the prosthetic ankle is flexible.

83. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 82, wherein the interconnecting portion is flexible.

84. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 64, wherein at least a portion of the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.

85. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 64, wherein at least one of the pylon, the prosthetic ankle, and the prosthetic foot includes a lateral section independently movable with respect to a medial section.

86. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 85, wherein the prosthetic foot includes a toe portion and the toe portion includes the lateral section and the medial section.

87. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 86, wherein:  
the lateral section has a first width; and  
the medial section has a second width smaller than the first width.

88. (Withdrawn) A prosthetic walking system for attachment to an amputee, the prosthetic walking system comprising:

a pylon having an upper end for attachment to the amputee and a lower end;

a prosthetic foot; and

a prosthetic ankle coupled between the pylon and the prosthetic foot, the prosthetic ankle having

an upper leg coupled to the lower end of the pylon by a first connection;

a lower leg coupled to the prosthetic foot by a second connection;

and

an interconnecting portion located between the upper leg and the lower leg;

at least one of (a) the first connection being adjustable so that the lower end of the pylon can be coupled to the upper leg in at least two positions; and (b) the second connection being adjustable so that the prosthetic foot can be coupled to the lower leg in at least two positions.

89. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 88, wherein:

the upper leg has an aperture adapted to receive the lower end of the pylon; and

the aperture has a first portion adapted to receive the pylon in a first position and a second portion adapted to receive the pylon in a second position.

90. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 88, wherein the pylon has a substantially circular cross-sectional area and the prosthetic ankle has a substantially rectangular cross-sectional area.

91. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 88, wherein at least a portion of the prosthetic ankle is flexible.

92. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 91, wherein the interconnecting portion is flexible.

93. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 88, wherein at least a portion of the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.

94. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 88, wherein the pylon has a first width and a portion of the prosthetic ankle has a second width smaller than the first width so that the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.

95. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 94, wherein the portion of the prosthetic ankle having the second width is positioned asymmetrically with respect to a longitudinal axis of the pylon.

96. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 88, wherein:  
the prosthetic ankle has a cross-sectional shape having a first moment of inertia and the pylon has a cross-sectional shape having a second moment of inertia; and  
the first moment of inertia is less than the second moment of inertia so that the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.

97. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 88, wherein:  
the pylon is constructed of a first material;  
the prosthetic ankle is constructed of a different second material; and  
the second material is more compliant than the first material so that the prosthetic ankle flexes before the pylon flexes when a load is placed on the prosthetic walking system.

98. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 97, wherein the first material is carbon-fiber composite and the second material is fiberglass.

99. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 88, wherein the upper leg and the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle are substantially straight and the interconnecting portion of the prosthetic ankle is substantially arcuate.

100. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 88, wherein the upper leg, the lower leg, and the interconnecting portion of the prosthetic ankle are each substantially arcuate.

101. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 88, further comprising at least one link coupled between at least one of the lower end of the pylon and the upper leg and at least one of the lower leg and the prosthetic foot, the at least one link at least partially defining a maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg.

102. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 101, wherein the at least one link is a resilient belt having

an upper portion coupled to at least one of the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle; and

a lower portion coupled to at least one of the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot.

103. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 102, wherein the resilient belt is a cord extending at least twice between at least one of the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle and at least one of the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot.

104. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 101, wherein the at least one link is a strap having

a top portion coupled between the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle;  
a bottom portion coupled between the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot; and  
an intermediate portion coupled between the top portion and the bottom portion, a length of the intermediate portion defining the maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg.

105. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 101, wherein the at least one link includes

a first link having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion of the first link being coupled to at least one of the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle;

a second link having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion of the second link being coupled to the second portion of the first link; and

a heel having a top portion and a bottom portion, the top portion of the heel being coupled to the second portion of the second link, the bottom portion of the heel being coupled to at least one of the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot.

106. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 105, further comprising an adjustment screw coupled to at least one of the first link and the second link and to the heel, wherein the adjustment screw is adjustable to vary the maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle.

107. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 101, wherein the at least one link includes at least one of a hydraulic cylinder and a pneumatic cylinder coupled to at least one of the pylon and the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle and to at least one of the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle and the prosthetic foot.

108. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 88, wherein the upper leg of the prosthetic ankle has a first length and the lower leg of the prosthetic ankle has a second length greater than the first length.

109. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 88, wherein at least one of the pylon, the prosthetic ankle, and the prosthetic foot includes a lateral section independently movable with respect to a medial section.

110. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 109, wherein the prosthetic foot includes a toe portion and the toe portion includes the lateral section and the medial section.

111. (Withdrawn) The prosthetic walking system of claim 110, wherein:  
the lateral section has a first width; and  
the medial section has a second width smaller than the first width.

112. (New) The prosthetic walking system of claim 1, wherein the means for limiting limits rotation of the upper leg away from the lower leg about a medial/lateral axis.

113. (New) The method of claim 26, and further comprising limiting the rotation of the upper leg away from the lower leg about a medial/lateral axis with the means for limiting.

114. (New) A prosthetic walking system for attachment to an amputee, the prosthetic walking system comprising:

a pylon having an upper end for attachment to the amputee and a lower end;

a prosthetic foot;

a prosthetic ankle coupled between the pylon and the prosthetic foot, the prosthetic ankle having

an upper leg coupled to the lower end of the pylon;

a lower leg coupled to the prosthetic foot; and

an interconnecting portion located between the upper leg and the

lower leg; and

a limit device coupled to at least one of the lower end of the pylon and the upper leg, the limit device also coupled to at least one of the lower leg and the prosthetic foot, the limit device at least partially defining a maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg.

115. (New) The prosthetic walking system of claim 114, wherein the limit device includes a limit strap.

116. (New) The prosthetic walking system of claim 115, wherein the limit device includes a tensioning device.

117. (New) A prosthetic walking system for attachment to an amputee, the prosthetic walking system comprising:

a pylon having an upper end for attachment to the amputee and a lower end;

a prosthetic foot;

a prosthetic ankle coupled between the pylon and the prosthetic foot, the prosthetic ankle having

an upper leg coupled to the lower end of the pylon;

a lower leg coupled to the prosthetic foot; and

an interconnecting portion located between the upper leg and the lower leg; and

a strap coupled to at least one of the lower end of the pylon and the upper leg, the strap also coupled to at least one of the lower leg and the prosthetic foot, the strap at least partially defining a maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg.

118. (New) The prosthetic walking system of claim 117, wherein the strap includes at least one non-resilient flexible material.

119. (New) The prosthetic walking system of claim 117, wherein the strap includes at least one resilient flexible material.

120. (New) A method of adjusting a prosthetic walking system according to an amputee's gait, the method comprising:

attaching a prosthetic walking system to the amputee, the prosthetic walking system including a pylon, a prosthetic foot, and a prosthetic ankle coupled between the pylon and the prosthetic foot, the prosthetic ankle having an upper leg, a lower leg, and an interconnecting portion located between the upper leg and the lower leg;

providing a limit device coupled between at least one of the pylon and the upper leg and at least one of the lower leg and the prosthetic foot;

limiting the maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg with the limit device; and

adjusting the limit device to change the maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg.

121. (New) The method of claim 120, and further comprising providing a limit device including a limit strap.

122. (New) The method of claim 120, and further comprising providing a limit device including a tensioning device.

123. (New) A method of adjusting a prosthetic walking system according to an amputee's gait, the method comprising:

attaching a prosthetic walking system to the amputee, the prosthetic walking system including a pylon, a prosthetic foot, and a prosthetic ankle coupled between the pylon and the prosthetic foot, the prosthetic ankle having an upper leg, a lower leg, and an interconnecting portion located between the upper leg and the lower leg;

providing a strap coupled between at least one of the pylon and the upper leg and at least one of the lower leg and the prosthetic foot;

limiting the maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg with the strap; and

adjusting the strap to change the maximum displacement between the upper leg and the lower leg.

124. (New) The method of claim 123, and further comprising providing a strap including at least one non-resilient flexible material.

125. (New) The method of claim 123, and further comprising providing a strap including at least one resilient flexible material.